

# THE INTELLIGENCER

Published every Tuesday, at \$5 per annum, payable in advance.

P. J. SINGLIER, Editor.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 1864.

Gov. Vance will address the citizens of Fayetteville on

FRIDAY, 22d inst.

at Summerville, Harnett co., Thursday 21st, at Egypt, Chatham co., Saturday 23rd.

From the meagre reports which we have received from Yankee sources, it is evident that we have achieved a glorious victory in Louisiana. Thus the spring campaign has opened up gloriously for the South. From every quarter the glad news of victory is heralded to the people. We are yet free, and the base and cruel enemy is repulsed at every point and driven back in disorder and dismay.

Do our people fully appreciate the salvation which has thus been vouchsafed to them? Do they fully realize the degradation from which they have been rescued?

It does seem to us that instead of that discord and dissension which we are daily compelled to witness in our State, there should be nothing but unity and concerted action to secure our independence and whip the detested and unprincipled foe that is attempting our subjugation. How utterly lost to every ennobling virtue—how void of every spirit of patriotism, must be that man, who for self, would stir up internal feud and political dissension at this time. Why should we have political maneuvering and political intrigue at a time like this, when we have every interest that is dear to freemen at stake?

It is remarkable that in North Carolina, particularly, this political demagoguism has never ceased—it has been continued and incessant. While our gallant armies in Virginia were battling with the enemy during the campaign of '61 and '62—while the Confederacy was bleeding at every pore, miserable political tricksters were at home, with easy exemption birls, arraying class against class—interest against interest—not for the good of the nation, Heaven knows, but for that most detestable of all other callings, that most filthy of all other vocations that has a claim to decency—politics.

We have no need for politics in peace—the country is better without it; and in war it is a blighting curse to any people.

But, we say, this is no time for political birls. It is true the past Congress has enacted laws that are disgraceful to our country—laws that should and must be repealed. These measures have done harm, serious harm, not because there is any danger of their being adopted as the fixed policy of this Government; but, because they are had as a precedent which, at some future day, may be used as a pretext for the inflicting further and greater wrongs upon the people; because they present, unnecessarily, a bone of contention, calculated to warm up the feelings of friends, and separate those who ought to be associated together in the conflict at a moment of such great national peril.

We would not have our people, even in a time of war, submit to the destruction of their civil rights. We would not have them lose sight of the great principle at stake in this contest—"The rights of the States and the civil liberty of the citizen." These are great vital principles, which must be held sacred through all time, in peace and in war; but the errors of the Government must not be used by adroit demagogues for the purpose of elevating themselves into office under the specious plea of undue regard for the welfare of the dear people. Too much of this has already been done.

These men have used the errors which the Government have committed to such an advantage that things have come to a pass that whole communities have been embittered against each other—men have been embittered against the cause in which we are engaged when there should be nothing but a unity of feeling and sympathy where there is such an identity of interest.

To come down more particularly to the present moment and to express ourselves plainly, we are pained to see the tendencies of the gubernatorial campaign in this State. It is sad to contemplate what must be the divided and distracted condition of our fellow-citizens in the State during the approaching summer. Is there not some other field where true merit can be appreciated, and where personal ambition can be fully satisfied? Cannot this exciting canvass be avoided, at least while the ship of State is in the storm? While the billows are threatening to engulf her, let all forget party politics—bury all selfish ambition. Let every one work unitedly until the ship shall be safe on the calm, untroubled sea of peace.

**FOURTY GOOD FOR ONE BRIGADE.**—A writer in the *Lynchburg Republican* gives the following results of the operations of Brig. Gen. Wm. E. Jones' brigade during its last campaign of seven engagements:

The fruits of these engagements have been 1,267 prisoners, between 300 and 400 of the enemy killed and wounded, 152 wagons, 7 pieces of artillery, and about 2,000 horses and mules. All this has been done during an unusually severe winter, without tents, without comfortable clothing, almost shoes, and with horses worn down by constant use and scarcity of forage.

The following is the statement of the vote polled at the Arsenal at this place for members of Congress in the 7th District.

For Leach,	2
For Foster,	7
For Ramsey,	2

**APPROACHING.**—The most capacious observer cannot but be struck with the undoubted evidence of a revolution every day to be seen among the Yankees. It is not a revolution where arms are to be used—it is not a revolution produced by excitement or passion, but, rather one of conviction slow but sure. Step by step gold has advanced in value from \$20, in the past twelve months, until it has attained the high figure of 175. There has been no excitement in the money market to produce this change; it has been a gradual advance without any except a spasmodic decline, lasting a day or two and these declines have been brought about by some maneuvering on the part of Chase, the Yankee Secretary of the Treasury, who, as he is, undoubtedly one of the first financiers on the continent. This increased value of gold, which is in consequence of the increased value of government securities, has been gained in the face of one of the most liberal financial measures which has ever been adopted. We refer to the sale, at a low figure, of gold certificates by the Yankee government. These certificates are sold by Chase at 165, but, although this is the case, it has not checked the gradual but sure advance of gold. The reason of this is obvious. The people of the North are beginning to see the utter folly of attempting our subjugation.

Not only is this evident in their financial matters, which is the surest test of public sentiment, but on the floor of the United States Congress one wise man can be found who dares to propose the recognition of the Confederate States of America! Twelve months ago and it would have been as much as his head were worth to do this. But a still better evidence of the change of public feeling is, that a motion to expell the member who makes this motion is lost for want of a two-thirds vote. A member from oppressed and down-trodden Maryland, fired with the spirit of patriotism which undoubtedly only lives smothered in the bosoms of many of her sons, ready to burst out at the favorable moment to crush under their heel the demon of abolitionism that has so long bound them in the galling chains of slavery; boldly de lares, within hearing of the miserable, despicable people who misuses the people, "that he hopes they (the Yankees) never will subdue the South!" "God forbid that she should be conquered!" This, with other things, goes to show that the end is at hand. Then, we say, courage, friends, courage!

Again our people have reason to rejoice for the great victory that has been achieved for our cause in Louisiana. While we think that the report of the loss of the enemy must be exaggerated to some extent, there is evidence sufficient to ground a belief that a terrible punishment has been inflicted upon Banks by our gallant leader, Kirby Smith. The reported capture of Fort Pillow may or may not be true; be this as it may, enough has been done to inspire our people with confidence and cheer our gallant soldiers in the fight.

We are in possession of intelligence which warrants the belief that in a few short days something decisive will have occurred on the line of battle nearer home. We would not be surprised to hear that in the next few days the gallant veterans that have already crowned their heads with laurels, well and bravely won on a score of bloody fields of strife, have again met the foe and crushed him under their heel.

The signs of the times are pregnant with great and decisive events—events upon the result of which, to a great extent, will depend our happiness as a people and our freedom and independence as a nation. May God vouchsafe to us a glorious victory!

**JERE TURNED UP AGAIN.**—The *New York World's* correspondent gives an account of a Union meeting recently held in Huntsville, Ala., (showing, according to this correspondent's own showing, was a failure) in which the notorious Jere. Clowens, figured as one of the speakers. He declared himself an out and out Union man, and promised to lead in carrying the State back into the Union. Jere may lead but he will have few followers, and the State will remain where it is, the efforts of Jere, to the contrary notwithstanding. He is a worthless set and no loss to the Confederacy.

**TORPED ES.**—It seems that this new instrument of warfare is likely to become rather troublesome to the Yankees. It was only a few days since that one of their steamships, the Minnesota, was seriously damaged by one of them, and now we find the following in a late letter from Florida, in the *Richmond Enquirer*:

"A torpedo was placed a few days since in the St. John's river, and yesterday a Yankee steamer loaded with arms and ammunition for two regiments, while passing upon it, when it exploded. It blew the steamer to fragments, and nearly all on board perished. The wreck of the steamer now lies on the bank of the St. John's, and the bodies of her dead are daily washed ashore."

**SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.**—The vote seems to come in slowly, but we have, through the *Progress*, the vote at Camp Holmes, near Raleigh, and Fair Grounds Hospital, as follows:

Leach, 51. Foster, 4. Ramsey, 5. There seems to be no doubt that Colonel Leach will be elected by a large majority.

Our friends in the country will please send us returns as soon as possible.

We would call the attention of several classes of our citizen soldiers, to the advertisement of Maj. Taylor, which appears in to-day's paper. It is the best opening we can see at the present time for our young and old friends, who desire to secure an easy and pleasant service. The notice gives but short time for them to make up their minds. There is no time to be lost; apply immediately to Maj. Taylor.

Those joining now will receive \$100 bonus and equipment.

**At last the dull monotony that has prevailed for the last few months is about to be dissipated by the resumption of active military operations.** The telegraph brings us news from every quarter of busy preparations for the coming struggle. Already the brave and dashing Forrest, at the head of his noble band, is dealing heavy blows to the Yankees in West Tennessee and Kentucky, while Kirby Smith and Dick Taylor, on the other side of the Mississippi, are gaining glorious victories for the Confederate arms. And now, the telegraph informs us, we may daily expect to hear of the clash of arms on the blood-stained fields of Northern Virginia, where the hosts of life's mercenaries, under the leadership of that "man on horse-back," the ubiquitous, invincible Grant, is preparing for an early advance on our lines. When this advance is made, the said Ulysses S. Grant, the idolized hero of Donaldson and Vicksburg, will meet a foe man worthy of his steel, and if he is not shorn of his laurels and clipped of his plumage by Lee and his gallant veterans, then we are neither "a prophet nor a son of a prophet," even so far as to foretell what reason and common sense would indicate as a probable result.

The Petersburg *Express* brings us intelligence that Burnside, also, is moving, and landing troops at different points. The notorious Col. Spears re-occupies Suffolk, and has sent out troops in every direction; and the *Express* has information from a reliable gentleman, who was within five miles of Portsmouth on Wednesday night, that Burnside's forces were landing in large numbers at that place all day Wednesday. It is all a matter of conjecture what Burnside's real intentions are, but his movements, together with the busy notes of preparation elsewhere, leave no doubt that we are soon to be in the midst of stirring events.

**ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.**  
CAMP 3RD N. C. CAVALY,  
Near Kinston April 11, 1864.

**EDITOR OF CAROLINIAN:**—We are still quiet in this section, but are like the Irishman's parrot; he caught an owl for a parrot, and when asked by a brother Pat if his bird had learned to talk, replied, "He don't say much, but keeps a d-d-l of a thinking." From the signs of the times, we have to do our thinking now, expecting to be too busy for it soon.

The windows of heaven have been opened again, like to the days of Noah; but fortunately for us in this country of musquitos and frogs, didn't stay open so long. Owing to the late heavy rains, our army is compelled to keep still; but as soon as the roads will permit, we will have a little news story. The soldiers are in fine spirits and good condition for any emergency; and if ratings get too short for our capacity, we have an example in an old soldier to follow as the time for green persimmons is not far off. The soldier referred to was a person named Jones, when his command was General riding by discovered him, and knowing that the fruit was green, asked what he was doing there eating green persimmons? "Just drawing up my belly to suit my rations," was his reply. Those who labor hardest for a cause are always most hopeful. When our citizens were cast down and gloomy, soldiers were furloughed and the scene changed, and now an excellent spirit of cheerfulness greets our eye on every side, which is very pleasant. We have a good army now, and with a hearty support from the people at home, we need fear nothing. We must look to it that we do not whip ourselves—something our enemy can never do.

ALPHA.

**For the Carolinian.**  
At a citizens' meeting held in Johnsonville District, Harnett county, April 12, on motion, John W. Cameron, Esq., was appointed Chairman and Capt. L. McN. McDonald requested to act as Secretary. The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, in our judgment some expression of opinion in regard to the coming elections, on our part, would be in place; Therefore be it resolved,

First, That we have full confidence in our present Representatives, and we approve the course pursued by them in the Legislature, and earnestly recommend them for re-election.

Secondly, Resolved, That we feel justly proud of our worthy Governor, Z. B. Vance, who has, with unflinching fidelity, sustained and maintained the rights of the citizen and kept the military authority subordinate to the civil authority. This alone should satisfy all lovers of civil liberty.

Thirdly, Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the *Fayetteville Observer* and *North Carolinian*.

On motion, the meeting then adjourned.

JOHN W. CAMERON, Chm.

L. McN. McDonald, Sec'y.

**For the North Carolinian.**  
At a public meeting of the citizens of Barbours District, Harnett county, held on the 12th of April 1864, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we, the citizens of Barbours District, approve the legislative course of our representatives, Dr. John McCormick and Nell McKay, Esq., and recommend them for re-election in August next.

Resolved 3d, That a copy of these proceedings be sent to the North Carolinian, and *Fay. Observer*, with a request that they be published.

JAS. CAMERON, Sec'y.

A correspondent of the *M. B. E. Register* gives a description of a tree in Mississippi that has the singular quality of growing by itself.

They are about the size of a large apple and thickness of an ordinary shirt button. When first taken from the fruit, they are of a bright brown color, covered with beautiful enamel. They, however, lose the enamel upon being boiled, which is necessary in order to puncture the holes in them. The buttons, in the absence of the genuine Yankee horn, are extensively used by all classes in the country, and answer as an excellent substitute, and I must add are worn with commendable pride, exhibiting an independence worthy of imitation. Mr. Editor, the Button Tree was, in olden times, vulgarly known as the persimmon tree.

On Friday morning, the 8th inst., Captain W. T. Muse, commander of the Confederate iron-clad gunboat *North Carolina*, died in Wilmington, N. C., of typhoid fever.

**THE DANISH IRON CLADS UNDER FIRE.**  
The European papers contain an account of the capture of the iron-clad *Danish*, which was built at Glasgow, in Scotland; she is covered with four and a half inch iron plates, is of twelve hundred tons burthen, draws sixteen feet water, and has two turrets or cupolas, carrying four sixty-eight pound guns. The top of the tower is about light and a half feet above the water level, and the ship being lowered into the sea is only a few inches above the surface. An officer who was on board during the action says:

We passed Holmes without replying to the fire of the battery stationed there, and took up the position which had been designated. We were anchored, with our broadside towards the fixed battery, which opened upon us a murderous fire with round shot, and a shell and shrapnel. A tongue of land prevented our seeing the bridge we had been ordered to destroy. The enemy fired very well. His fixed batteries were masked, and it is, therefore, impossible to say how much damage we did him, but I saw a couple of shells at a distance of about a mile, and upon a hill, and when cheering off, I heard a mill and a house.

We returned to Sonderborg, after being engaged an hour and a half. The *Rolf Krake* stood the trial well. She was hulled six times, each shot being of sufficient force to sink a wooden ship. The towers were hit several times; sixteen shots went through the funnel, one through the steam pipe, two through the forecastle, one through the mainmast, two through the mizzen, and from six to seventy through the bulwarks, small boats, sails and rigging. The deck is torn up in many places, the tackle much cut, the three boats riddled; every valuable point was hit, and I have seen and heard of many of the deck workmen being killed or wounded without certainty of death. We calculated that about five thousand pounds of iron were expended upon us, and you may suppose that we contributed our share. The noise was deafening, produced much by our own fire as the missiles of the enemy, whose shells flew about in all directions, and hit directly or indirectly the tower in which I was stationed, sent in a shower of pieces, which set fire to two mattresses, damaged my frontispiece, grazed my leg, smashed my telescope, and penetrated a coat lying by my side in half a dozen places. I am still deaf of one ear from the din—other side not much hurt. One man in each turret was also slightly wounded, and, only enough, each in the left cheek.

The Danish batteries are armed with French rifled guns.

**THE OLD CURRENCY AND THE NEW SIX PER CENT.**—It is not generally known that the old currency may be funded in the six per cent. bonds which the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to issue to the amount of five hundred million of dollars. The bonds are to bear interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, and thus six hundred and sixty-six dollars, thus invested, will yield the same amount of interest as one thousand dollars in the four per cents—four dollars per annum in both cases. So the holder of the notes will use nothing in an act of interest, by neglecting to fund them at their expressed value in four per cents, and funding them at the rate of six per cents, he gets six in the dollar in six per cents. The interest on the six per cents, is secured by the pledge of the revenues of the Confederacy derived from its import duties and its export duties on cotton, tobacco and naval stores. No fund or revenue is pledged or set apart for the payment of the interest on the six per cents, but the holders of the six per cents will be paid in full by the Government, secured by the mortgage of a sufficient amount of its revenues. It is a pity that the most desirable disposition to make of what remains of the old currency to convert it, sealed to the amount of one-third, into the new six per cents.

**THE ALEXANDRIA CASE.**—The London correspondent of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* writes the latest news about the Alexandria case:

The discussion of the Alexandria case in the House of Lords, or rather before six members of it, has terminated, and then Lordships announce that their decision will be made public some time after Easter. The discussion was wholly uninteresting, as the merits of the case itself were not touched upon. The arguments were on the dryest of all technicalities, and really interested nobody except the lawyers themselves. If the decision is in favor of the Government, then a new trial of the whole case will be ordered; but if otherwise, the decision of the Court of Exchequer will stand, in favor of the Lord, although that decision was only arrived at by the most technical arguments. It is rather to be regretted that the latter is the result, although the latter may thus obtain a technical victory, it will only be on the confession, by the highest court of the kingdom, that the language of the act of Parliament does not represent the intention of the framers of it, and will prove how little dependence is to be placed on British laws in general.

**TRAGIC AFFAIR.**—In Bristol, Tenn., on Saturday night of last week, some two hundred members of Gen. Warfield's Georgia brigade, being dissatisfied with the quality of the rations drawn by them that day, determined to right themselves. They accordingly marched out to a hill, and there they broke open and plundered of about 75 sacks of flour, 700 pounds of bacon, 100 sacks of bran, and 50 or 60 pounds of candles. When they proceeded to carry off with them. Mean time the alarm was given, and the provost guard, some twelve in number, having arrived, immediately commenced firing on the rebels, first upon them, killing one (a Lieutenant Reynolds) on the spot, and wounding five or six more, one or two of them, it is said, mortally. The rest made their escape with their plunder. That night and the next day a number were caught and placed under arms. Self and sure punishment will be sure to follow. The men were not armed except with muskets, a few trunks of which they left in the store-house. It is not pretended that they were driven to commit the act by hunger. Their day's rations had been served out to them that morning.

**THE PARIS ELECTIONS.**—A Paris correspondent, referring to the election, by large majorities, of Carnet and Garnier Pages, avowed enemies of imperialism, as Deputies in the Corps Legislatif from Paris, says:

"You will naturally ask how this manifestation is regarded by the Government and the Emperor. It is principally tracked by the Emperor, which reaches us from a confidential source at the moment I write this, the Emperor appears to be greatly moved and troubled by this persevering enmity of the Parisians against himself and his dynasty. I am told, indeed, that he regards the matter in a much graver light than even his Ministers do. The latter, however, are not without their support of the Provinces, and think the Government thereby secured. But the Emperor knows how great influence the example of the Capital will exercise, and how all the large cities of the Empire will attempt to emulate what is done in Paris. It is this impression and the anxiety as to the future which it creates, which no doubt greatly concerns the Emperor's resolution to avoid a general and revolutionary war in Europe, if it be possible to do so."

**GOING SOUTH.**—We understand that all of the Yankee prisoners confined at Danville are to be sent to Georgia, whence they will be exchanged. There are some thirty-five hundred now at Danville.

Mrs. Senator Douglas is filling a twelve-hand cart with her household goods, and is preparing to leave for Washington. This is positively by a Washington correspondent.

**RE-ENLISTMENT.**—We are glad to learn that Co. A of the 2d N. C. Battalion, stationed at the Fayetteville Arsenal and Army Depot, is re-enlisted for the war. This company originally enlisted for three years. The other companies of the Battalion had originally enlisted for the war.

The directors of the railroad leading from Charlotte, N. C., to Statesville, have generously agreed to voluntarily surrender a portion of their rails to the Government for the purpose of completing the Danville connection.

The Montgomery Hotels have taken ten dollars per day on the price of board. We notice that hotels and boarding houses in other cities are coming down in their charges.

**NEWS-ITEMS.**—We have as yet (Wednesday 4 p.m.) no Northern mail, and we find little news in the papers from the South, if we except the Memphis (Atlanta) *Appeal*, which puts down Mr. Fulton, of North Carolina, as a somewhat in connection with the Press Convention held last week in Augusta, which we regret our inability to attend. This is an item of news to us and will probably surprise the *Lynchburg Progress* aforesaid.

Our editorial brethren seem to have had a good time in Augusta, and all express their gratitude for courtesies extended.

The following officers of the Press Association of the Confederate States were chosen for the ensuing year:

**President.**—W. G. Clark, of the Mobile Advertiser.

**Secretary and Treasurer.**—N. S. Morse, of the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel.

**Directors.**—Messrs. Barnes, of Georgia; Crutcher, of Virginia; Shannon, of Mississippi; DeFovine, of S. C.; Paul, of Tennessee; Fulton, of North Carolina.

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ON OFFERS OF PARDON.**  
U.S. SENATOR. The reply of Benjamin Franklin to Lord Howe, in 1776, when he presented the plan of the English Government to the "American rebels" of Pardon upon submission, is most appropriate to the present state of things. Hear what he says:

"The official dispatches to which you refer contain nothing more than what we had seen in the act of Parliament, viz: offers of pardon upon submission; which I am sorry to find, as it must give your Lordship pain to be sent so far upon so hopeless a business."

"Directing pardon to be offered to the Colonies, who are the very parties injured, business and insensibility, which your unimpaired and proud nation has long been pleased to entertain of us; but it can have no other effect than that of increasing our resentment. It is impossible we should think of submission to a government that has, with the most wanton barbarity and cruelty, burnt our defenceless towns in the midst of winter, excited the savages to massacre peaceful farmers, and our slaves to murder their masters; and is even now bringing foreign mercenaries to deluge our settlements with blood. These atrocious injuries have, exasperated a very spirit of rebellion for that patient country we once held so dear; but we are possible for us to forget and forgive them, it is no, possible for you, I mean the British nation, to forgive the people you have so heavily injured. You can never console again in those as fellow-subjects, and permit them to enjoy equal freedom, to whom you know, you have given such just excess of lasting enmity; and this must impel you, if we are again under your government, to endeavor the breaking of our spirit by the severest tyranny, and a brutalizing, by every means in your power, our growth in strength and prosperity."

I consider this war against us, therefore, as an unjust and unwise; and I am persuaded that cool and dispassionate posterity will consider us to infamy to who advised it, and that even success will not save from some degree of dishonor those who have voluntarily engaged to conduct it.

**NEWS SUMMARY.**

**ISSUE OF NEW CURRENCY.**—The following amounts have been issued in the new currency, to the present time:

In \$500 notes,	\$10,000,000
In \$100 "	12,120,000
In 50 "	7,500,000
In 20 "	1,000,000
In 10 "	14,225,000
Total,	\$35,345,000

We learn from the *Mississippi*, that Gen. Forrest's late campaign was a series of triumphs, resulting in the capture of Paducah, Union City and Hickman. In addition to the military stores captured, he brought out over 100,000 fine horses and mules. Three hundred of these were found in one warehouse at Paducah. Forrest lost two years of West Tennessee are flocking to his standard, and his command will soon be so augmented in numbers as to be invulnerable against any force which the enemy can bring against it.

**DEATH OF GOV. ALSTON.**—The Charleston papers announce with regret, the death of the Hon. R. W. Alston, ex-governor of South Carolina. He died on Thursday last, at his plantation on the Pee Dee River.

An experienced Federal naval officer declares that such is the peculiar situation of the coast, with its innumerable channels, and inlets, that the entire navy of the United States could not make the blockade of Wilmington effective.

The *Swansea* Republican says, that a few of the new issue have found their way into the market yesterday. We hear that a number of very ready to take a premium of fifty per cent. That is a pretty big beginning, and they will do better, that is a while. The immense reduction of the volume of currency should bring down prices at least one half.

Governor Vance, it is stated, has accepted an invitation from the Ladies of Putnam county, to address the citizens of Greenville, N. C., at some future time—day may yet given.

**YANKEE PRISONERS DYING.**—At the Military prison at Andersonville, Georgia, the Yankees, we are informed, are dying at the rate of twenty to twenty-five per day. If this continues we will have our prisoners to exchange.

A gang of deserters who had been annoying the citizens of Union county, N. C., was broken up last week. Two brothers named John and Cos Meddens and their brother-in-law, Albert Meddens, were captured last Saturday by a party of old men and boys. Alarms was shot and killed. The Meddens were both mortally wounded.

Major Sloan, Quartermaster General of North Carolina, is collecting large amounts of supplies at Greensboro for the troops from that State. He already has several millions worth on hand.

**THE MILITARY PENITENTIARY, at Salisbury, N. C., is becoming populous.** On yesterday, fifty-eight more Confederate convicts of desertion and other offences were sent thither from Castle Thunder, to serve out various terms at hard labor.

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**The Prison on Lake Erie.**  
(BY A PRISONER ON JOHNSON'S ISLAND.)  
The full, round moon, in God's blue band,  
Glide o'er her path so quietly—  
Dark shadows creep, fade into light,  
And stars look down serenely,  
A captive looks out on the scene—  
A scene so sad and dreary  
And thinks a weary captive's thought  
In prison on Lake Erie.

The happy, happy days of youth  
Flirt by him fast and faster;  
The joys which gave no warning note  
Of manhood's dire disaster;  
The days when joy, and peaceful homes,  
And friends bright and cheery,  
Come back to find him sad and worn,  
In prison on Lake Erie.

A passing cloud flits o'er the scene;  
The light, a moment brightened,  
Returns again, but now, alas!  
The vision bright has vanished.  
The happy view of childhood's throne  
Leaves but a picture dreary,  
To rest the aching eye upon,  
In prison on Lake Erie.

How many moons will rise and wane!  
How many months will languish—  
Ere Peace, the white-winged angel comes  
To soothe a nation's anguish!  
God speed the long and pray'd for day,  
When loved ones, bright and cheery,  
Shall welcome us around the hearth,  
From prison on Lake Erie.  
Johnson's Island, February, 1864.

**VOLENTARIUM NOT YET PLAYED OFF.**—We are gratified to find that the mutual spirit is not yet extinct in our midst, and that there are still those among us anxious to seek redemption in the ranks of our country's defenders. Young America is aglow with patriotic enthusiasm. On Friday afternoon last, about four o'clock, four youths, ranging from nine to fourteen years of age, clandestinely left the Sand Hills and their paternal roof-trees, determined to join Gen. Johnson's army.

The number of this youthful company was originally ten, but six failed to come to their, probably from "circumstances over which they had no control." The quartette of young warriors set off on horseback and a motley appearance we should suppose they made. One was astride a daisy, another a horse, sheeted in pony, the other two on horseback. But looks were nothing with them—behavior everything. They made a forced march of ten miles that day, halting about ten o'clock at night at a road near Bertha, where they camped, posting their sentinels, arranging their possessions, &c.

When General Johnson was discovered, one of our citizens got on their track, and came up with the young soldiers while the smallest boy, who had ridden the daisy, was passing the sentinel's round in a drenching rain, with a musket somewhat larger than himself. Our friend was regularly "busted by the guard." But of course was unable to give the password. A party was had, however, and the prisoners were taken to the military prison at Danville, where we are happy to say they are now, and assigned, out in a good and comfortable way, at an early hour in the morning.

When asked what they were intending to do in the army, they said they would act as couriers, and let the adephobed men holding these places go to the ranks. Good for the boys! They deserve no other mention, if not promotion, for their patriotism and self-sacrifice.

**A BRIGHT DAY DAWNED.**—A correspondent of the *Atlanta Register*, at Danville, says that the Hon. Johnson, lately, representative in the Confederate Congress, from the fourth Congressional District of the State of Arkansas, who has been the project of a peace through the history of years, a nation, and more especially that of France and Mexico, stated that after the adjournment of the Confederate Congress, and before leaving Richmond, he visited (as is usual with members leaving for their homes) Mr. Davis, when he was asked by the President if he contemplated going to the Trans-Mississippi Department, if so, he (the President) wished him to say to his constituents over there, that he (Mr. Davis) for the first time since the commencement of this cruel, bloody, and devastating war, was a bright day dawning, and that by the time the next session of Congress convened, he would be able to lay before Congress that which would astonish and clarify the people of the Confederacy.

**MEETING OF METHODIST BISHOPS.**—The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Confederate States, will hold their annual meeting in Montgomery, on the 4th of May next. Bishops Andrew, Pierce, Paine and Early are expected to be present. Bishops Soule and Kavanaugh are within the enemy's lines, and though thoroughly loyal to the South, will be unable to attend. They are engaged in caring for the church (what remains of it) in the border States. At the same time and place, the Missionary Board and the Publishing Committee will hold their annual meeting. These meetings for consultation and business used to be held in Nashville.

**Give a Whiting**—commanding the Department of Wilmington, has issued a notice to producers that unless provisions are brought to the market at customary hours, a duty of ten cents will be levied on the city the